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Susan Tyer to Mr. Meredith (8 October 1962)

Susan Tyer

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answered
1/14/63

17 Orari Street
Napier
Wellington
New Zealand

8th Oct. 1962.

Dear Mr Meredith,

I am sure you must have received many letters of different kinds. At school, home, everywhere, you are being talked about. How you must have suffered facing those insensitive creatures. What possesses people who are, as far as I know, normal, sane beings to be so hateful? I can only put it down to their unfortunate upbringing.

In this country we cannot understand the problems your people must overcome to obtain an advanced education.

There exists a wonderful relationship between Maori and Pakeha (European) in New Zealand. The majority of Europeans accept anyone of colour. My mother, as

their nurse, has close contact with the Maoris and admires and respects many of them. The ones living away from the main cities are very fine, loyal people.

I only wish that the younger Maori (16-18 years) were less inclined to find work in the cities, they seem unable to adjust themselves to city life and so mix with the wrong type of European. But I still want our good relationship with the Maori to continue.

I am writing of fine people because I am sure your people are as wonderful as our Maoris.

I hope I have put down my opinion properly but I find it hard to express.

I am fifteen now, but when I leave school I hope to study and understand more this problem.

Once again I am sure all of New Zealand will be with me when I

send you our sincere good-wishes for
your success.

Yours Sincerely
Susan Tyer.

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